

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 1, 3, 7, 11 and 13-22 are present in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 11 have been amended, and claims 23 and 24 have been canceled. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

With reference to the Office Action, without conceding the comments in paragraph 2 or the rejection set forth in paragraph 3, claims 1 and 11 have been amended to include the subject matter of claims 23 and 24, respectively, which have been indicated as containing allowable subject matter. As a consequence, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection set forth in paragraph 3 is moot. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

With regard to the Statement of Reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter on page 5 of the Office Action, Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner to any extent that such statements characterize the invention in a manner at variance with the actual wording of the claims.

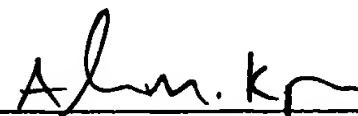
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are patentable over the art of record and that the application is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Prompt passage to issuance is earnestly solicited.

MURAKAMI et al.  
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Respectfully submitted,

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